

## AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Kindly cancel claims 1, 11-17, 24, 26, 29-31, 38, 41-45, 50-55 and amend claims 2, 4, 10, 18-20, 23, 25, 27, 28, 32, 33, 34, 37, 39, 56, 57, 58 and 61 as shown in the listing of claims below. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application.

## LISITING OF CLAIMS

- 1 Claim 1. (cancel)
- 1 Claim 2. (currently amended) ~~The method of claim 1~~ A method for reducing stiction in a MEMS device having a moveable element moveably coupled to a substrate, the method comprising:
  - 3 a) providing the substrate with an anti-stiction member; and
  - 4 b) interposing the anti-stiction member between the moveable element and the substrate,  
5 wherein step b) includes actuating the moveable element to interpose the anti-stiction  
6 member between the moveable element and the substrate.
- 1 Claim 3. (original) The method of claim 2 wherein step b) includes substantially immersing the  
2 moveable element in a liquid during actuation of the moveable element.
- 1 Claim 4. (currently amended) ~~The method of claim 1~~, A method for reducing stiction in a MEMS device having a moveable element moveably coupled to a substrate, the method comprising:
  - 3 a) providing the substrate with an anti-stiction member; and
  - 4 b) interposing the anti-stiction member between the moveable element and the substrate,  
5 wherein step a) includes providing an anti-stiction member that overhangs the moveable  
6 element.
- 1 Claim 5. (original) The method of claim 4, wherein the anti-stiction member includes one or  
2 more flexible portions.
- 1 Claim 6. (original) The method of claim 5, wherein the one or more flexible portions includes at  
2 least one double-serpentine portion.
- 1 Claim 7. (original) The method of claim 4 wherein the anti-stiction member is made of a flexible  
2 material.

1 Claim 8. (original) The method of claim 4 wherein step b) includes actuating the moveable  
2 element whereby the moveable element engages the anti-stiction member causing the anti-  
3 stiction member to flex.

1 Claim 9. (original) The method of claim 8 wherein step b) includes flexing the anti-stiction  
2 member sufficiently to interpose the anti-stiction member between the moveable element and  
3 the substrate.

1 Claim 10. (currently amended) The method of claim 1 A method for reducing stiction in a  
2 MEMS device having a moveable element moveably coupled to a substrate, the method  
3 comprising:

- 4 a) providing the substrate with an anti-stiction member; and
- 5 b) interposing the anti-stiction member between the moveable element and the substrate,

6 wherein step a) includes:

7 providing a silicon-on-insulator (SOI) substrate;  
8 defining the moveable element from a device layer of the SOI substrate; and  
9 depositing a flexible material over the device layer and the moveable element such that  
10 the flexible material overhangs the moveable element.

1 Claims 11-17 (cancel)

1 Claim 18. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 15 An apparatus for reducing stiction in a  
2 MEMS device having a moveable element moveably coupled to a substrate, the apparatus  
3 comprising:

- 4 an anti-stiction member that is interposable between the moveable element and the substrate,
- 5 wherein the anti-stiction member is attached to the substrate, wherein the anti-stiction
- 6 member is not attached to the moveable element, wherein the anti-stiction member is
- 7 cantilevered such that the anti-stiction member overhangs the moveable element.

1 Claim 19. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 15 An apparatus for reducing stiction in a  
2 MEMS device having a moveable element moveably coupled to a substrate, the apparatus  
3 comprising:  
4 an anti-stiction member that is interposable between the moveable element and the substrate,  
5 wherein the anti-stiction member is attached to the substrate, wherein the anti-stiction  
6 member is not attached to the moveable element, wherein the anti-stiction member is made  
7 from a flexible material.

1 Claim 20. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 15 An apparatus for reducing stiction in a  
2 MEMS device having a moveable element moveably coupled to a substrate, the apparatus  
3 comprising:  
4 an anti-stiction member that is interposable between the moveable element and the substrate,  
5 wherein the anti-stiction member is attached to the substrate, wherein the anti-stiction  
6 member is not attached to the moveable element, wherein the anti-stiction member includes  
7 one or more flexible portions disposed between a fixed end and a free end of the anti-stiction  
8 member.

1 Claim 21. (original) The apparatus of claim 20 wherein the one or more flexible portions include  
2 at least one serpentine portion.

1 Claim 22. (original) The apparatus of claim 20 wherein the one or more flexible portions include  
2 at least one double serpentine portion.

1 Claim 23. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 15 An apparatus for reducing stiction in a  
2 MEMS device having a moveable element moveably coupled to a substrate, the apparatus  
3 comprising:  
4 an anti-stiction member that is interposable between the moveable element and the substrate,  
5 wherein the anti-stiction member is attached to the substrate, wherein the anti-stiction  
6 member is not attached to the moveable element, further comprising a standoff attached to a  
7 free end of the anti-stiction member.

1 Claim 24. (cancel)

1 Claim 25. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 24, An apparatus for reducing stiction in a  
2 MEMS device having a moveable element moveably coupled to a substrate, the apparatus  
3 comprising:  
4 an anti-stiction member that is interposable between the moveable element and the substrate,  
5 wherein the anti-stiction member is attached to the substrate, wherein the anti-stiction  
6 member is not attached to the moveable element,  
7 further comprising means for electrically isolating the moveable element from a portion of  
8 the substrate, wherein the means for electrically isolating includes an electrically insulating  
9 standoff attached to a free end of the anti-stiction member.

1 Claim 26. (cancel)

1 Claim 27. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 15 An apparatus for reducing stiction in a  
2 MEMS device having a moveable element moveably coupled to a substrate, the apparatus  
3 comprising:  
4 an anti-stiction member that is interposable between the moveable element and the substrate,  
5 wherein the anti-stiction member is attached to the substrate, wherein the anti-stiction  
6 member is not attached to the moveable element,  
7 further comprising means for electrically isolating the moveable element from a portion of  
8 the substrate, wherein the anti-stiction member includes a serpentine shaped portion that is  
9 disposed between a free end and a fixed end of the anti-stiction member.

1 Claim 28. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 15 An apparatus for reducing stiction in a  
2 MEMS device having a moveable element moveably coupled to a substrate, the apparatus  
3 comprising:  
4 an anti-stiction member that is interposable between the moveable element and the substrate,  
5 wherein the anti-stiction member is attached to the substrate, wherein the anti-stiction  
6 member is not attached to the moveable element,  
7 further comprising means for electrically isolating the moveable element from a portion of  
8 the substrate, wherein the anti-stiction member includes one or more double-serpentine  
9 shaped portions that are disposed between a free end and a fixed end of the anti-stiction  
10 member.

- 1      Claims 29-31. (cancel)
- 1      Claim 32. (currently amended) ~~The MEMS device of claim 28~~ A MEMS device, comprising:  
2            a substrate;  
3            a moveable element moveably coupled to the substrate, and  
4            an anti-stiction member that is interposable between the moveable element and the substrate,  
5            wherein the anti-stiction member is cantilevered such that the anti-stiction member  
6            overhangs the moveable element.
- 1      Claim 33. (currently amended) ~~The MEMS device of claim 29~~ A MEMS device, comprising:  
2            a substrate;  
3            a moveable element moveably coupled to the substrate, and  
4            an anti-stiction member that is interposable between the moveable element and the substrate,  
5            wherein the anti-stiction member is made from a flexible material.
- 1      Claim 34. (currently amended) ~~The MEMS device of claim 29~~ A MEMS device, comprising:  
2            a substrate;  
3            a moveable element moveably coupled to the substrate, and  
4            an anti-stiction member that is interposable between the moveable element and the substrate,  
5            wherein the anti-stiction member includes one or more flexible portions disposed between a  
6            fixed end and a free end of the anti-stiction member.
- 1      Claim 35. (previously presented) The MEMS device of claim 34, wherein the one or more  
2            flexible portions include a serpentine portion.
- 1      Claim 36. (previously presented) The MEMS device of claim 34, wherein the one or more  
2            flexible portions include at least one double-serpentine portion.
- 1      Claim 37. (currently amended) ~~The MEMS device of claim 29~~ A MEMS device, comprising:  
2            a substrate;  
3            a moveable element moveably coupled to the substrate, and  
4            an anti-stiction member that is interposable between the moveable element and the substrate,  
5            further comprising a standoff attached to a free end of the anti-stiction member.

1      Claim 38. (cancel)

1      Claim 39. (currently amended) ~~The MEMS device of claim 38, A MEMS device, comprising:~~

2            a substrate;

3            a moveable element moveably coupled to the substrate, and

4            an anti-stiction member that is interposable between the moveable element and the  
5            substrate, further comprising means for electrically isolating the moveable element from a  
6            portion of the substrate, wherein the means for electrically isolating includes an electrically  
7            insulating standoff attached to a free end of the anti-stiction member.

1      Claim 40. (original) The MEMS device of claim 39, wherein the means for electrically isolating

2            includes an electrically insulating portion of the moveable element.

3      Claims 41-45. (cancel)

1      Claim 46. (original) A method for fabricating a MEMS device, comprising:

2            providing a silicon-on-insulator (SOI) substrate;

3            defining a moveable element from a device layer of the SOI substrate; and

4            depositing a flexible material over the device layer and the moveable element such that one  
5            or more portions of the flexible material overhang the moveable element,  
6            wherein the flexible material is deposited such that the anti-stiction member is attached to  
7            one end to a portion of the device layer,

8            wherein the flexible material is deposited such that the anti-stiction member is not attached to  
9            the moveable element;

10            whereby the flexible material forms one or more anti-stiction members.

1      Claim 47. (original) The method of claim 46 wherein an insulating material is deposited between  
2            defining the moveable element and depositing the flexible material.

1      Claim 48. (original) The method of claim 47, further comprising etching the insulating material  
2            to release the moveable element.

1      Claim 49. (original) The method of claim 48, wherein the flexible material is resistant to an  
2            etchant that is used to remove the insulating material.

- 1   Claims 50-55. (cancel)
- 1   Claim 56. (currently amended) ~~The optical switch of claim 50~~ An optical switch, comprising:  
2    a substrate;  
3    one or more moveable elements moveably coupled to the substrate, and  
4    an anti-stiction member that is interposable between at least one of the moveable elements  
5    and the substrate, wherein the anti-stiction member is cantilevered such that the anti-stiction  
6    member overhangs the moveable element.
- 1   Claim 57. (currently amended) ~~The optical switch of claim 50~~ An optical switch, comprising:  
2    a substrate;  
3    one or more moveable elements moveably coupled to the substrate, and  
4    an anti-stiction member that is interposable between at least one of the moveable elements  
5    and the substrate, wherein the anti-stiction member is made from a flexible material.
- 1   Claim 58. (currently amended) ~~The optical switch of claim 50~~ An optical switch, comprising:  
2    a substrate;  
3    one or more moveable elements moveably coupled to the substrate, and  
4    an anti-stiction member that is interposable between at least one of the moveable elements  
5    and the substrate, wherein the anti-stiction member includes one or more flexible portions  
6    disposed between a fixed end and a free end of the anti-stiction member.
- 1   Claim 59. (original) The optical switch of claim 58, wherein the flexible portion includes a  
2    serpentine portion.
- 1   Claim 60. (original) The optical switch of claim 58, wherein the flexible portion includes at least  
2    one double serpentine portion.
- 1   Claim 61 (currently amended) ~~The optical switch of claim 50~~ An optical switch, comprising:  
2    a substrate;  
3    one or more moveable elements moveably coupled to the substrate, and  
4    an anti-stiction member that is interposable between at least one of the moveable elements  
5    and the substrate, further comprising a standoff attached to a free end of the anti-stiction  
6    member.